Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method on a computer for providing critical chain-based project management across a plurality of projects, comprising:

generating a plurality of project plans having a critical chain, each of the plurality of project plans corresponding to one of the plurality of projects, wherein a project comprises at least one task;

generating buffers for each of the plurality of projects, wherein at least one of the buffers generated is placed on the critical chain;

reconciling project resources among the plurality of projects such that priority is given to resource needs of ~~so as to accommodate~~ the critical chain~~;~~

executing the plurality of project plans;

continuously ~~providing~~ displaying status information about the buffers to a user via a graphical user interface, wherein the status information displayed for each project of the plurality of projects includes a buffer consumption percentage and a completion percentage for a current longest chain of tasks in the project; and

providing to the user a graphical user interface for managing ~~allowing the user to manage~~ the buffers across the plurality of projects based on the status information about the buffers.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~step of continuously providing further comprises:~~

~~continuously providing status information about the buffers to a user via a network interface~~

status information displayed for each project of the plurality of projects further includes at least one of a project buffer consumption percentage and a milestone buffer consumption percentage.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

continuously modifying task prioritization for any task of the plurality of projects based on the status information about the buffers, wherein task prioritization is

2

calculated across the plurality of projects so as to accommodate the critical chain, and wherein task prioritization for a task is calculated based on a buffer consumption percentage of a longest chain to which the task belongs and based on a chain completion percentage of the longest chain to which the task belongs.

4.   (currently amended) The method of claim 3, ~~further comprising:~~

~~providing to the user, over a network interface, the task prioritization that was modified based on the status information about the buffers~~

wherein the task prioritization for a task is further calculated based on relative buffer priority.

5.   (currently amended) A method on a computer for providing critical chain-based project management across a plurality of projects, comprising:

generating a plurality of project plans having a critical chain, each of the plurality of project plans corresponding to one of the plurality of projects, wherein a project comprises at least one task;

generating buffers for each of the plurality of projects, wherein at least one of the buffers generated is placed on the critical chain;

reconciling project resources among the plurality of projects such that priority is given to resource needs of ~~so as to accommodate~~ the critical chain;

executing the plurality of project plans;

continuously ~~providing~~ displaying status information about the buffers to a user via a graphical user interface, wherein the status information displayed for each project of the plurality of projects includes a buffer consumption percentage and a completion percentage for a current longest chain of tasks in the project;

providing to the user a graphical user interface for managing ~~allowing the user to manage~~ the buffers across the plurality of projects based on the status information about the buffers; and

continuously modifying task prioritization for any task of the plurality of projects based on the status information about the buffers, wherein task prioritization is calculated across the plurality of projects so as to accommodate the critical chain, and

wherein task prioritization for a task is calculated based on a buffer consumption percentage of a longest chain to which the task belongs and based on a chain completion percentage of the longest chain to which the task belongs.

6.   (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein ~~the step of continuously providing further comprises:~~

~~continuously providing status information about the buffers to a user via a network interface~~ the task prioritization for a task is further calculated based on relative buffer priority.

7.   (currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein ~~the step of allowing further comprises:~~

~~allowing the user to manage the buffers across the plurality of projects based on the status information about the buffers, wherein the user utilizes a web page to manage the buffers~~ the task prioritization for a task is further calculated based on relative project priority.

8.   (currently amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

~~providing to the user, over a network interface, the task prioritization that was modified based on the status information about the buffers~~ the task prioritization for a task is further calculated based on relative milestone priority.

9.   (currently amended) A server for providing critical chain-based project management across a plurality of projects, the server comprising a memory storage device including computers instructions for:

generating a plurality of project plans having a critical chain, each of the plurality of project plans corresponding to one of the plurality of projects, wherein a project comprises at least one task;

generating buffers for each of the plurality of projects, wherein at least one of the buffers generated is placed on the critical chain;

reconciling project resources among the plurality of projects <u>such that priority is given to resource needs of</u> ~~so as to accommodate~~ the critical chain~~;~~

executing the plurality of project plans;

continuously ~~providing~~ <u>displaying</u> status information about the buffers to a user <u>via a graphical user interface, wherein the status information displayed for each project of the plurality of projects includes a buffer consumption percentage and a completion percentage for a current longest chain of tasks in the project</u>; and

providing the user with <u>an</u> ~~an~~ <u>graphical user</u> interface for <u>managing</u> ~~allowing the user to manage~~ the buffers across the plurality of projects based on the status information about the buffers.

10. (currently amended) The server of claim 9, wherein the ~~instructions for continuously providing further comprise instructions for:~~

~~continuously providing status information about the buffers to the user via a network interface~~

<u>status information displayed for each project of the plurality of projects further includes at least one of a project buffer consumption percentage and a milestone buffer consumption percentage.</u>

11. (currently amended) The server of claim 10, further comprising computer instructions for:

continuously modifying task prioritization for any task of the plurality of projects based on the status information about the buffers, wherein task prioritization is calculated across the plurality of projects <u>so as to accommodate the critical chain, and wherein task prioritization for a task is calculated based on a buffer consumption percentage of a longest chain to which the task belongs and based on a chain completion percentage of the longest chain to which the task belongs.</u>

12. (currently amended) The server of claim 11, wherein each <u>graphical user</u>

interface is provided over a network, such as a WAN.

13.   (currently amended) A server for providing critical chain-based project management across a plurality of projects, the server comprising a memory storage device including computers instructions for:

generating a plurality of project plans having a critical chain, each of the plurality of project plans corresponding to one of the plurality of projects, wherein a project comprises at least one task;

generating buffers for each of the plurality of projects, wherein at least one of the buffers generated is placed on the critical chain;

reconciling project resources among the plurality of projects such that priority is given to resource needs of so as to accommodate the critical chain;

executing the plurality of project plans;

continuously providing displaying status information about the buffers to a user via a graphical user interface, wherein the status information displayed for each project of the plurality of projects includes a buffer consumption percentage and a completion percentage for a current longest chain of tasks in the project;

providing to the user a graphical user interface for managing allowing the user to manage the buffers across the plurality of projects based on the status information about the buffers; and

continuously modifying task prioritization for any task of the plurality of projects based on the status information about the buffers, wherein task prioritization is calculated across the plurality of projects so as to accommodate the critical chain, and wherein task prioritization for a task is calculated based on a buffer consumption percentage of a longest chain to which the task belongs and based on a chain completion percentage of the longest chain to which the task belongs.

14.   (currently amended) The server of claim 13, wherein the instructions for allowing further comprise instructions for:

providing an interface to the user that allows the user to manage the buffers across the plurality of projects based on the status information about the buffers

6

the task prioritization for a task is further calculated based on relative buffer priority.

15. (currently amended) The server of claim 14, wherein ~~the interface further provides to the user information associated with buffers for the plurality of projects, so as to evaluate the status of the plurality of projects~~

the task prioritization for a task is further calculated based on relative project priority.

16. (currently amended) The server of claim 15, wherein the graphical user interface is provided over a network, such as a WAN.

17. (currently amended) A memory storage device including computer instructions for providing critical chain-based project management across a plurality of projects, the computer instructions including instructions for:

generating a plurality of project plans having a critical chain, each of the plurality of project plans corresponding to one of the plurality of projects, wherein a project comprises at least one task;

generating buffers for each of the plurality of projects, wherein at least one of the buffers generated is placed on the critical chain;

reconciling project resources among the plurality of projects such that priority is given to resource needs of ~~so as to accommodate~~ the critical chain;

executing the plurality of project plans;

continuously ~~providing~~ displaying status information about the buffers to a user via a graphical user interface, wherein the status information displayed for each project of the plurality of projects includes a buffer consumption percentage and a completion percentage for a current longest chain of tasks in the project;

providing to the user a graphical user interface for managing ~~an interface to the user for allowing the user to manage~~ the buffers across the plurality of projects based on the status information about the buffers; and

continuously modifying task prioritization for any task of the plurality of

7

projects based on the status information about the buffers, wherein task prioritization is calculated across the plurality of projects so as to accommodate the critical chain, and wherein task prioritization for a task is calculated based on a buffer consumption percentage of a longest chain to which the task belongs and based on a chain completion percentage of the longest chain to which the task belongs.

18.   (currently amended) The memory storage device of claim 17, wherein ~~the interface is a network interface~~

the task prioritization for a task is further calculated based on relative buffer priority.

19.   (currently amended) The memory storage device of claim 18, ~~further comprising instructions for:~~

~~providing the user with an interface for providing to the user task prioritization for any task of the plurality of projects based on the status information about the buffers, wherein task prioritization is calculated across the plurality of projects~~

wherein the task prioritization for a task is further calculated based on relative project priority.

20.   (currently amended) The memory storage device of claim 19, wherein ~~the interface for providing to the user task prioritization is a network interface~~

the task prioritization for a task is further calculated based on relative milestone priority.

8